

'round the town news

The Birmingham Eccentric

LATHRUP • FRANKLIN • WING LAKE • GILBERT LAKE • WALNUT LAKE • FOXCROFT • W. & E. BEVERLYS • THE BERKSHIRES • VALLEY WOODS • SOUTHFIELD, BLOOMFIELD & W. BLOOMFIELD TWPS.

Members for Incorporation in Two Southfield Areas

Bloodmobile to Visit West Bloomfield Townhall Sept. 25

WEST BLOOMFIELD—Inter-lake health co-ordinators are making preparations for the Red Cross bloodmobile visit Sept. 25 at the West Bloomfield townhall, 4490 Orchard Lake road.

On that date the western section of West Lakes basin will replenish their supply. Hours will run from 2:30 to 5 p.m. and from 6 to 8:30 p.m.

The Inter-lake bloodbank includes Wing Lake, Foxcroft, Franklin and Walnut Lake areas.

GENERAL Recruiting Chairman Mrs. O. S. Koskinen is pushing recruiting in the West Vaughtan, Scott, Green, Whitfield, Bond-Eagle and Roosevelt school districts and Westlakes.

Southfield Woods Water Company's By-Laws Improved

EAST SOUTHFIELD—Southfield Woods Water Company at the East Southfield school September 9. By-laws were changed to better serve members. Over 100 members gathered to discuss merits of the company's water supply versus the Southern Bell Oakland county water authority's.

Attorney T. J. Sura reported the legal action of the Southern Bell division of the state health department by the water company now in the hands of the Supreme Court and a decision would not be handed down until October.

Newly elected to serve on the board of directors for a two year term were: Robert Smart, Robert Murphy, Thomas McGee and Bud Welch. Mrs. Allen Wright constitutes the fifth board member.

West Bloomfield Community Chest Chairman Named

WEST BLOOMFIELD—Martin C. Lee has been appointed to head the 1937 township community chest drive. Emmett DeConick, board chairman announced this week.

According to DeConick the 1937 goal has been set at \$15,271, and one of the new agencies it will support is the West Bloomfield Boys' Club.

Drive dates will be from Oct. 5 to Oct. 25, according to Kenneth H. Sanderson of West Acres, publicity chairman.

DeConick also stated that the board has paid the balance of the 1936 budget request and fulfilled their 1936 financial goal 100 per cent.

Thieves Break Into Lathrup Church

LATHRUP—Thieves ransacked Community Church and stole \$100 from Southfield road Sunday and escaped with three to four dollars, according to Police Lieut. Edmund Flannery.

Footprints at the scene of entry—a rear basement window—indicate that two men broke into the church Flannery said. They were unsuccessful in an attempt to knock the combination of a church safe.

Will not Collect Sewer Tax in '38

SOUTHFIELD—A two-mill tax for a system of trunkline sewers voted April 4, 1935, will not be spread on the tax levies which rolls, township board decided last week.

Board members said that the one installment, in which the township collected \$231,000, plus the interest sufficient for the year's available demand within the next year.

My Neighbors

Countertailing is too slow. Let's take over a union!

Swem Tops Southfield Charter Candidates

SOUTHFIELD—City of Southfield proponents are right back where they started in June, 1935 when the entire Southfield area voted to incorporate into a home-rule city.

However, with the thorn of Westwood Village removed from their side, township residents south of 13 between Greenfield and Southfield roads, and south of 12 1/2 Mile from Southfield to Inkster, will be able to write an acceptable charter within the two-year period granted by law.

The first charter must be ready within the next 90 days and if it will be, this area will become a home-rule city of 28 1/2 square miles.

About 24 per cent of 4,032 of the 12,268 registered voters in the City of Southfield area turned out Monday.

Pro-city forces saw incorporation swept in on a 6-1 vote in favor of the home-rule city. The year vote totaled 3,247 and the no vote was 663.

Eugene Swem, township supervisor, counted the most votes of the 32 charter candidates. His tally of 1,978 was followed closely by Donald L. Swanson's 1,904.

Swanson was the first city charter candidate and was on the first charter committee. He is a former township trustee and was on the first charter committee.

Between June 7, 1935 and June 6, 1937 two charters were rejected and a third charter came in as an anti-city foe beat down the first incorporation attempt.

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Petition for Lathrup Downspout Law Repeal

LATHRUP—A petition, requesting council to either repeal the downspout disconnection ordinance or put the question to Lathrup residents on a ballot, was received at the city offices Friday.

At the same time, Lorenzo C. Becker and Kenneth M. Farnham presented a petition addressed to the downspout appeals board which requested that the entire Saratoga drain area be exempt from the ordinance's requirement that downspouts be disconnected.

AND MONDAY Lathrup police checked 16 people listed three months ago as in violation of the downspout ordinance at 141st and Cambridge avenue resident. Next court date at which his case could be heard, will be Sept. 20.

City Administrator Leonard A. Watchowski said if the petition is found to be valid after a hearing by the clerk, council will either have to act favorably on the petition or call for an election to let voters decide the issue.

IN PART THE petition for repeal said:

"We feel these ordinances (Ord. 29 and amendments made by Ord. 34) are:

1) Discriminatory 2) Ineffectual 3) Unpopular 4) Unnecessary and 5) Unenforceable for every resident without exception."

Watchowski said that many of 200 names on a list now in the police department's hands could have complied with the ordinance since the list was drafted three months ago.

A SECOND PETITION to the downspout appeals board said in part:

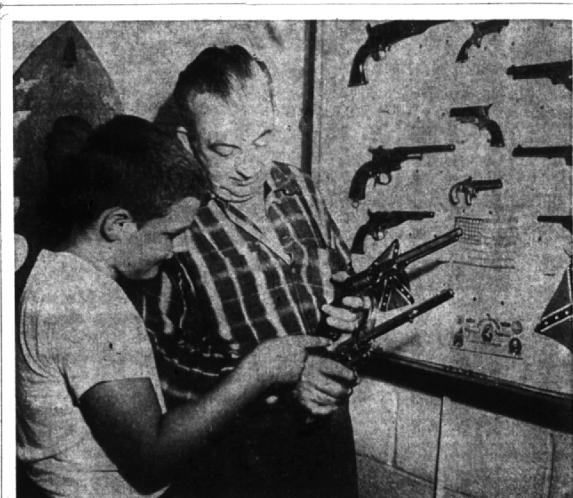
"(We Saratoga residents) are served by an adequate drain in our district and contiguous non-urban area within the meaning of the ordinance in question; further we petition that your established engineers have already stated that

there is no reason for our drain pipes to be disconnected at this time in this area.

"Therefore, we each of us, hereby petition the downspout board of appeals to withhold such order to disconnect in our respective cases and hear our appeal.

"FURTHER, if this appeal for this reason."

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John Smith, 6085 Westmoor, shows his action Peacemaker, probably the most famous, Joel, two of the famous Colt revolvers, and an early percussion Frontier and a single-mus of the Colt weapons.

Two Famous Colts

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Antique Guns Remind Collector of History

An absorbing interest in American history and a keen appreciation of old guns, has made gun collecting a fascinating hobby for John Smith of Westmoor road.

With his vivid account of the part each gun played in American history, one could almost visualize the pioneers on their way west by wagon train with the old 44-40 Winchester resting on their knees.

It was also easy to believe the tales of the great strength of Daniel Boone after testing the weight of the Kentucky long-rifle in Smith's collection.

AN INTERESTING bit of information was the fact that although this gun was named the Kentucky long-rifle for the region where it first saw extensive use, it was made near Lancaster, Penn. and was one of the first guns to be rifled.

Smith's father, Charles Edward Smith, contributed a Craig-Jorgensen rifle he used while a member of the Boy Scouts.

Two pistols in the collection, a Remington 38 caliber and Colt Dragon settled an argument, rather drastically according to present day standards, between an estate Grand Rapids sharp-shooter and a feeding acquaintance. It might be added that according to the story the colt won.

THE COLT was further represented by a Peacemaker, a Frontier model and the Colt-35 caliber experimental.

Two guns, made by a John W. Conant of Ohio, in 1821 were on display. They were the only guns ever made by the gentleman and cause for his personal use.

Whether there was any romance connected with this project is a matter of conjecture, but with the aid of a magnifying-glass, Smith found the names of two ladies engraved on the stock.

Smith has many guns in his collection, and although many hours are devoted to repairing and refitting the guns before they are placed on display, he feels that his hobby is most enjoyable and rewarding.

ELSEWHERE IN THE ECCENTRIC Harry Allen Succumbs 1-A Teenage Court 1-A AAUW, Jr. League 1-B Volunteers for Science 1-B School 6, 7, 8-B Architect's Home 1-D Business Briefs 3, 4, 5-D Church 6, 7-D

Now, with the county behind the project, it appears that the larger green project, with sewer lines, will be constructed, according to Homer W. Clark of Hubbell, both as engineer and engineer for both sewer projects. This would eliminate enlargement of the Evergreen sewer project, a more costly project, Clark said.

SCHEONE ANNOUNCED that his department submitted Federal grant requests of \$250,000 each for the North Evergreen, the large Evergreen and the Farmington Interceptor sewer last week, which, if approved, would lower the overall cost to local residents.

"What happens if we don't approve this bond issue?" one member of the audience asked. Claude H. Stevens, bonding attorney, told the group the township, along with several of the other five communities in the Evergreen sewer project, were under court order to end pollution of the Rouge river.

IF, SAID STEVENS, the township failed to act to end this pollution, the State Water Resources Commission, which is suing the township, could obtain a

Westwood Approved By 2-1; 55% Turn Out

WESTWOOD—Pro-village forces here overcame a heavy anti-village vote in West Beverly Hills subdivision to bring to this 4 1/2-square-mile area their own home-rule village.

All that is needed to complete that village status is a charter which five of 10 charter candidates are required by law to turn out within the next 90 days.

Robert B. Reed led the charter candidates in getting power as he polled 1,496 of the 2,695 votes cast. Registered voting strength here was near 4,000. About 54.8 per cent of the electors voted.

THE VOTE FOR incorporation was 1,496 for and 895 "no." Heaviest no vote was 440 and was recorded in the West Beverly Hills precinct, a strong clear township-type of government.

Anti-village forces in the West Beverly Hills precinct, however, conducted a phone campaign in an effort to head off the popular village movement. Main reason for support of township was a fear of heavy taxation and dual structure of government meant with village incorporation.

MARVIN B. CLINK, fellow member with Reed on the third and final charter commission of the since defeated first City of Southfield movement, was close behind Reed's high tally with 1,403.

Next in line were Edward M. (Ted) Shurtliff who polled 1,399; Hugh G. Alerton Jr., 1,189; and Chester (Chet) Gaultier, 1,172.

(For complete statistics see Westwood Village election returns elsewhere.)

Alerton, from West Beverly Hills, the only successful charter commission who have election preferred township to village status. He is a Southfield township trustee.

THE OTHERS who came from West Beverly Hills, Guilmet from Southfield, and Shurtliff and Reed, Alerton, have, with others, led the fight against the first City of Southfield movement. It has been in the foreground in the battle for a village in the Berkshires-Beverly Hills area.

The new village is bounded on the north by 14 Mile road, on the east by Greenfield road, on the south by 13 Mile road between Greenfield and Walnut Lake roads, and by 12 1/2 Mile road between Southfield and the Bingham Farms limits.

Walnut Lake Subs Push New Sewer

In a meeting last Wednesday at Bloomfield township hall, representatives of eight Bloomfield township subdivisions heard W. J. Benizio of the Michigan Department of Health outline sanitary sewers as the only satisfactory solution to the area's health threat resulting from drain contamination.

each subdivision must achieve through petition 65 per cent approval of the measure.

PRESENT AT THE meeting, which served as a springboard into a public meeting on general township sewer conditions held the following night at Bloomfield Hills high school, were: J. Scott and H. A. Costantino of the sanitation department, and Arno L. Hulst, Bloomfield township supervisor.

Twenty persons from Bloomfield Farms, Bras of Bloomfield, Bras No. 3, Lone Pine Heights, Woodlark Lake, Franklin Woods, Walnut Lake Estates, and Walnut Lake No. 1 attended the Sept. 11 meeting at township hall.

HULET SAID he would back a plan for bonding the township one mill on equalized valuation in order to give bond-owners security on their investment. He offered to make personal calls on any of the subdivisions desiring further information on the situation.

The drain contamination problem in the area stems from the 82-year old Graves drain which runs from the area to the west of Walnut Lake and Inkster roads southeast to a point near Franklin Lake. Tests at two locations, including a large pond of stagnant water near Walnut Lake-Inkster intersection, have proven to contain a high bacteria count as well as raw sewage.

Bras subdivision association officials label the condition a serious health threat—which could result in an outbreak of typhoid, dysentery or other diseases, as well as sickness to pets. Both children and animals have been found playing around the contaminated area.

MANY RESIDENTS are anxious to see the tract removed. Others, satisfied with, septic tanks, are fearful the sanitary drains will only mean an additional tax burden, already unwieldy tax burden, have expressed sentiments against the new proposals.

The eight area subdivisions represented at the Bloomfield township hall, however, were unanimous in their sentiment favoring new sanitary sewers for the area.

HULET AND SCHEONE both promised that no new subdivision would be able to start after the sewer trunklines are in, unless the subdivision paid tap-in charges and connected to the sewer.

Hulet also noted that costs of maintenance would be paid by the county DPW but that cost of processing sewage through the Detroit treatment plant would be billed onto the homeowners' water bills.

WILLIAM SPRINGER, 6085 Wing Lake road, said that he believed that no more than 10 per cent of the township (mainly in the southeast area) would need the sewer because they had built on small lots.

"We lack good police and fire protection and school improvements